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PP RUEHDE RUEHDIR  
DE RUEHKU #0058 0221212  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 221212Z JAN 09 ZDK  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2672  
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 1690  
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 1372  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS KUWAIT 000058

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

NEA/ARP, NEA/IPA

///// C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - SENSITIVE CAPTION ADDED /////

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [PINR](#) [KU](#)

SUBJECT: GAZA REMAINS RALLYING CALL FOR GOK

REF: KUWAIT 0054

¶1. (SBU) In an attempt to deflect criticism of Arab leadership divisiveness as witnessed in the January 19-20 Arab Economic Summit (reported reftel), and to appear cohesive prior to next week's (scheduled) encounter with parliament, the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers united in a statement condemning the Israeli actions against Hamas in Gaza. The General Secretariat of the Council released a statement on January 21 decrying Israel's disregard to international calls to stop the "barbaric massacres, terror, and systematic destruction" of Gaza and saluting the Palestinians in Gaza for their "heroic steadfastness".

¶2. (U) The Council of Ministers also confirmed its adoption of measures to ensure the cessation of further attacks, and claimed Israeli military actions in the conflict were illegal and that the "barbarous perpetrators" would be brought to justice. The council also pledged its support for the reconstruction of Gaza.

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JONES